Press Release

State of Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

DPSCS Communications Office Contacts:

Mark Vernarelli ~ 410-339-5065 ~ mvernarelli@dpscs.state.md.us

Danielle Lueking ~ 410-339-5011 ~ dwilmsen@dpscs.state.md.us



Martin O'Malley Governor Anthony G. Brown Lt. Governor

Gary D. Maynard Secretary

DPSCS Inmate-Cleaned Bricks at the Foundation of Linthicum's New Veterans' Memorial to be Dedicated Saturday

Towson, MD (May 21, 2010)---When the Anne Arundel County community of Linthicum dedicates its beautiful veterans memorial this Saturday morning, some people may be puzzled to hear the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and its Division of Correction inmates thanked. But thanking DPSCS is something a lot of cities, communities, and non-profits are doing these days, because DPSCS inmate Public Safety Works projects are doing more in more corners of the state than ever before.

In Linthicum's case, DPSCS Secretary Gary Maynard, a proponent of many programs in prison involving inmates who are military veterans, authorized the donation of several hundred bricks for the striking new memorial. The veterans committee designed a curved wall honoring all branches of military service that's set in a small park on the corner of Camp Meade and Maple Roads---on a tract of land the Linthicum founding family wanted to be set aside for veterans. DPSCS-donated bricks, gleaned from the demolition of the old Baltimore Coliseum on Monroe Street several years ago, were used to build the interior foundation for the walls.

Inmates in the Maryland Correctional Pre-release System spent months cleaning the tons of bricks behind the fences of several facilities in the Jessup region. The bricks have since been used on a number of community and prison projects, and are available for gateway signs and other uses by local governments and communities by contacting DPSCS. Secretary Maynard has also encouraged communities to take advantage of inmate labor, and many have, including Williamsport, the first community in Maryland to use an inmate labor crew fulltime.

Other important inmate projects include inmates building oyster spat cages; harvesting, greenhouse-growing, and replanting bay grasses; and, just this week, a 220-bale hay donation to Days End Farm, a horse rescue operation in Lisbon that recently took in 26 starving horses. The hay came from the Division of Correction's own horse farm for retired thoroughbreds, and was delivered by inmates.

For more information on Public Safety Works projects, visit <u>www.dpscs.state.md.us</u> and click on the "Initiatives" tab.